

# WILD NEWS

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## Summer Program Schedule 2014

June - July - August



### Wildlife Viewing Tours

9:30 - 11:30 am

Friday, June 6 & 20, July 18, August 1, 15 & 29

Saturday, July 12 & 26, August 9 & 23

Sunday, June 15 & 29, July 13 & 27, August 10 & 24

Sit back, relax, and leave the guiding to us! This free, two-hour bus tour is family-friendly and sure to provide some special connections to nature.

### Summer Hike 'n' Bird

Saturday, June 7, 8:30 - 10:30 am

Friday, July 11, 8:30 - 10:30 am

Birders from novice to expert are sure to enjoy this casual guided hike. Look for the Refuge's feathered friends while getting some exercise too! This hike explores woodland, wetland, and prairie habitats. Recommended for adults.

### Incredible Edibles!

Saturday, June 7, 10:00 am - Noon

Did you know that Colorado's prairies are full of edible seeds, berries and roots? Historically, plants like cattail roots and pincushion cacti have fed native peoples. Join Regional Archeologist, Meg Van Ness, and discover the botanical cornucopia found on the Refuge.

### Bird Olympics

Friday June 13 & July 11, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Saturday August 2, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Can you oogle like an owl, balance like a great blue heron, and flap your wings as fast as a hummingbird? Play bird Olympics with us and see how you score against the wild kingdom. Recommended for kids ages 6 - 10. Refuge medals awarded!

### Birding for Beginners

Saturday, June 14, 8:30 - 11:30 am

Sunday, July 20, 8:30 - 11:30 am

Discover the tips and tricks to birding. Learn how to use binoculars, guide books, and how to identify our feathered friends through visual aids in an auditorium presentation. Then venture into the field with naturalists to put your new skills to the test!

### Owls Underground

Saturday, June 21 & 28, 8:30 - 11:30 am

Sunday, June 22, 8:30 - 11:30 am

Friday, June 27, 8:30 - 11:30 am

What a hoot! Join a naturalist for a short presentation about the charismatic, spindly-legged burrowing owl. Then spend time in the field observing their behavior and their emerging owlets!

### Pollinator Walk

Saturday, June 21, 9:00 - 10:00 am

Want to attract pollinators, butterflies, and birds to your backyard landscape? A naturalist will guide you through the Refuge's bird and butterfly garden at the Visitor Center patio and give you tips, tricks and what to plant to create your own colorful pollinator paradise.

### Bike the Refuge

Saturday, June 28 & July 12, 8:30 - 10:30 am

Enjoy the Refuge on two wheels as you pedal your way through the grasslands, wetlands and woodlands spotting wildlife with a naturalist. Fat, puncture-proof tires recommended and helmet required. Please be comfortable riding 8 miles.

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**Reservations are required for these FREE programs. Call 303-289-0930. Please dress for weather.**

**Children must be accompanied by an adult.**

Assistance dogs are welcome. Refuge staff reserves the right to cancel or reschedule programs due to unforeseen circumstances and any programs with less than 10 participants.

Visit us online at <http://www.fws.gov/rockymountainarsenal> or at <http://www.facebook.com/RMANationalWildlifeRefuge>

## Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge

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### Thunder on the Prairie

*Saturday, July 19, 9:30 - 11:30 am*

Discover the history and behavior of the iconic American bison during a short auditorium presentation. Then venture out with a naturalist to get a closer look at these agile giants including a behind the scenes peek at what it's like to be a bison moving through their corral.

### Nature Drawing For Kids

*Saturday, July 26, 10:00 - 11:30 am*

Uncover the secrets of nature drawing and story illustration with artist and author Heather Hall while making your own art journal. After a short drawing lesson on how to capture the wonder of nature, enjoy a walk around the Refuge drawing what you see. Recommended for ages 7 - 11.

### Amazing Antlers - The Velvet Tour

*Sunday, August 3, 8:30 am - noon*

Did you know antlers are the fastest growing tissue in any mammal or that the amount of daylight can determine annual antler growth? Learn more about bucks in velvet with a naturalist and then spend time in the field spotting and photographing these magnificent mulies.

### Refuge Hours and Address

**Hours: Monday - Sunday sunrise to sunset**

6550 Gateway Road, Commerce City, 80022

The Refuge is closed Thanksgiving,  
Christmas and New Year's Day

### Visitor Center Hours

Wednesday - Sunday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

The Visitor Center is closed on all Federal holidays

### Two Ponds NWR

#### National Trail's Day

*Saturday, June 7, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm*

Come one and all to our annual Trail's Day event at Two Ponds NWR and Majestic View Nature Center celebrating our nation's natural resources! Both sites offer free, family-friendly educational activities, arts and crafts, trail walks, wildlife presentations, exhibits, and complimentary hot dogs and ice cream. A free shuttle service is provided between both locations.

#### Self-guided Nature Walks

*Daily - during open business hours*

In this fast-paced world reconnecting with nature is more important than ever. Stop by and take a walk with a free, self-guided nature brochure and visit several interpretive locations throughout the Refuge - available at the main kiosk.

#### Two Ponds NWR Address and Hours

9210 W. 80th Ave, Arvada, CO 80005

Hours: West side - dawn to dusk; 7 days a week

East Side - October to April (closed for winter)

May to Sept. - Tuesday - Saturday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

### Refuge News and Activities

#### New Refuge Hours!

Starting May 15, Refuge hours will be sunrise to sunset and the Refuge will be open most holidays (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day only!)

#### 2014 Fishing Season

The catch-and-release fishing season is underway. Fishing is allowed Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays, sunrise to sunset for a \$3.00 daily fee. Visit [www.fws.gov/rockymountainarsenal](http://www.fws.gov/rockymountainarsenal) for details.

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